

THE BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL. 1.

VICTORIA, V. I., SATURDAY, JAN. 22, 1859.

NO. 7.

THE BRITISH COLONIST

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By A. DE COSMOS.

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TERMS—CASH.

THE BRITISH COLONIST.

A. DE COSMOS.

SATURDAY, JAN. 22, 1859.

PROXY AND NO PROXY VOTERS.

It is not generally known that a law exists in this colony by which an absentee voter can vote by proxy. This was borrowed by the Executive and Council from British Guiana. One might have supposed it came from Guinea. The best advice we can give, is to cut it out of our Statutes and send it back,—for a more unfit and contemptible law never found place in the Statutes of British America: it is a perfect disgrace to the country. Whether it ever answered any useful purpose to the absentee planters of British Guiana, God only knows; and how it came here we cannot tell, except some slave driver with it accidentally drifted here from that delectable colony, and our sapient rulers generously incorporated it in our Statutes as a monument of his safe arrival. Why it was that the Nassimo Coal Company, in view of this law, had not divided into twenty acre patches their six thousand acres, and appointed their agent to cast their votes at the last election, we know not, except it was easier to make an appointee. If they had done so, Dr. Kennedy might have been elected instead of appointed, and the Assembly would not have to unsettle past and history would not carry down to posterity a sorry attempt at making legislators.

Some of our Solons occasionally talk of the extension of the Franchise. Now our opinion is, that the whole Franchise question requires overhauling,—and the proxy voting law repealed at once,—and something of the kind is not done, as a gentleman at our next election will walk up to the poll with a number of the Legislature in his pockets, or what is tantamount, a pocket full of proxy votes. If our Solons instead of willing away their time, and what is of greater importance, the time of the people, concocting and reversing plans for removing and building bridges and mending the roads, if they would mend their own ways a little, we would have a wise, a liberal, a just, and a comprehensive Franchise bill that would satisfy all parties, and not a narrow contracted thing made particularly for the people of Victoria. Let the next election come on under our election laws, and the whole Songish tribe of Indians, all the minors and old women in the country, with aliens and proxy voters, will come up to the poll to cast their votes; and all because the Elective Franchise question has never been properly dealt with, and that the present laws, or that in embryo,

are of such a nature that a coach and four could be driven through them.

Taxation and representation should go together; consequently we are disposed to favor an extension of the Elective Franchise to all male tax payers of lawful age, and six months in the country, who are native or adopted subjects of Great Britain, always excluding Indians. But this perhaps will not be adopted for some time, as our Solomons are afraid to tax the people; and consequently they must do without a thousand necessary improvements, both political and material. With the tax paying Franchise—instead of having that unwieldy Registration of Voters Bill of Mr. McKay—the whole registration would be in a nut shell,—every man coming up to vote being compelled to show his tax receipt, which could be verified by the Tax Collector's list, in the hands of the Election Judges, and his nationality proven by oath, if doubted. This, however, we fear is too great a stretch of imagination for the slow coaches who rule this country, although universal tax-paying suffrage will exist here before five years.

If we cannot—either through the fears of the wily or the non-progressive spirit of our rulers—get the tax paying Franchise, we hope some member of Assembly will call up the whole question before the House, and introduce a bill for the whole colony. Allow all British householders six months in the country, whether owners, tenants, or joint tenants for three or six months prior to the election, and all British owners of real estate to the value of eight dollars a year, to cast their votes. Exclude Indians entirely. Permit none to vote except once and that where they reside. Repeal that absurd and corrupt proxy law, which is so contemptible that argument for its repeal is useless. In short define clearly who shall vote and how it shall be done. If this is done we will have a bill it is true which is rather old fogish, but one immeasurably better than the existing Franchise, or that which has been proposed, and one that will give general satisfaction to the people. By giving to householders the right to vote we offer an inducement to permanent residence; and by setting an annual value to real estate, we foster the settlement of the country,—making town lot or twenty acre lot owners improve their property,—and effectually prohibit the corrupt from purchasing twenty acres of wild land, to remain unimproved, in order to vote.

Correspondence of the British Colonist.

MR. EDITOR:—It is now evident that nearly all the miners have gone to San Francisco who intend going this season; indeed, about as many are returning to

this country as are going from it. We may now say that it is low ebb, and that it will stand so for a few weeks, then the tide of emigration will gradually set in, and keep rising, rising until these colonies are filled with population, drifted hither from every corner of the civilized world. San Francisco was a wonder—it astonished the world by its rapid growth. Victoria, V. I., will surpass it if properly governed; but I am afraid of the present government. With a few exceptions the right man is not in the right place. Sir Bulwer Lytton will only do right if he will make a clean sweep on next May, for it is clear to every one that reform is necessary, and none steps forward to do the work. The members of the Legislative Assembly appear to have got disheartened. None can wonder at it. They have passed several important bills, and they have nearly all expired in the arms of the Executive. The most important bill, the extension of the Franchise to the town of Victoria, has lain prostrate now 20 months, and I am afraid that it is all but dead. Nothing can save it but medical aid, and if medical aid is not called in by this time, we will be informed by the next dispatch being read, that the bill has died from strangulation. But on the other hand, should the country be governed as it ought to be, then we have prosperity to hope for, and nothing to fear. From San Francisco we may expect \$5,000 by the end of July next; from Australia 10,000 by the end of the year; from the United States, the Canada, and Great Britain, 50,000 by the end of the year; Chinamen and other foreigners, about 50,000, and by the year 1860 it is considered by impartial men that these colonies will have a population of 455,000 souls. Victoria is a place where the miner can leave his family in safety. He can carry on his labours in British Columbia with a light heart, knowing that the lives and property he has left on Vancouver's Island are secure, for in no part on this side of Cape Horn is life and property more secure than here. For a continuance of this, much depends on the citizens; they ought to think of this. The conduct of the stranger greatly depends on the example shown by them. Should a disturbance arise in the streets, let none interfere but the police or those who may be called on to assist. If this course could only be acted on every disturbance could easily be put down, and quietness restored. But on the other hand, should a drunken or foolish man commit a breach of the peace, and the constable in the execution of his duty get surrounded by 1500 men, as was the case last summer, when the prisoner was rescued: it was said and believed that not more than 50 bad men were among that number. Now I ask in the name of common sense, what did the 4450 men mean by surrounding the constable in the execution of his duty; it was they who tacitly aided the bad men to rescue the prisoner,—without their presence and company, the others would have been afraid of the consequences of the law; but when they got intermixed with so many they became more daring, knowing that the chances of detection were small. For the future let every citizen keep at a respectable distance from the crowd, and render assistance when called for. Should such a course be adopted, the

stranger will soon learn that every citizen is a constable in time of need. This is a free country,—all are welcome to come. They will be treated with respect as long as they respect the laws; and I would say to the stranger—learn and remember them, for they are not to be violated with impunity; the offender, if caught, will be severely punished, for such is beneficial to society. I trust that the police force will be more efficient than it ever has been; and I may as well remark that efficiency does not consist in numbers. A small body of good men, well paid, under proper discipline, and kept to their work by a superintendent who understands the business, will perform the public service much better than double their number under the present system. Then we must have a good and able man on the bench; in a word every office must be filled with fit and proper men. The Governor must see to all this. The people can have no objection to see old friends and relations in office, provided the public duty is performed as it ought to be; but on the other hand, if it should be found that these men who are in office are receiving large salaries, and are incompetent to perform the duties of their office, then such can be nothing short of an imposition on the public. The people will watch all this with a penetrating eye, and will expose every evil to be found in the whole of the machinery of the government. They will only be performing a duty to themselves, to their country, their queen, and to generations yet unborn.

ALERT.

LANGLEY—ITS POSITION AND FUTURE DESTINY.

The sale at auction of New Langley town lots, made by authority and for account of the Crown, has evidently been very successful.

A large amount of money coming in the treasury has been the consequence of this sale, made under the auspices and with the encouragement of the Governor of British Columbia.

The best situated lots and reserves have been kept by the authorities for the special purposes of government, and for the administration of laws and justice.

This deliberate and very eloquent action of the authorities, was a tacit assurance that the town of Langley would be for the future time a very important site for a large city. The government taking itself the start, and encouraging by this action the purchase of the lots at a very high price.

If this sale at auction had been made by the few speculators who had first taken possession of this beautifully situated spot, the prices would not have exceeded one hundred dollars, and only very few lots would have been sold.

The wide-awake people of Victoria would certainly not have invested their hard dollars on a piece of land held by irresponsible parties, and which place might not have been selected nor approved by our newly appointed Lieutenant Governor Moody, etc., etc., for a future site for the government.

This being a fact ascertained and acknowledged by all, it is a very nice question now to Lieutenant Governor Moody, and if this antecedent action of the government on these premises will be officially approved and consolidated by him in giving

ing to the public the assurance that the new town of Langley will be as it has been tacitly intended by the authorities, the first capital of the government in British Columbia.

It is not only a very nice question to ask, but it is also the duty of Lieutenant Governor Moody to answer it through the press.

It is of the utmost importance, that the people of this town should be aware of the future intentions, resolutions, and plans of Lieutenant Governor Moody respecting this special spot of New Langley, before encouraging them in building up a place which may be abandoned and desolated in a few months by the government choosing another one.

It would be retarding the progress of the colony in exhausting the means of the very actors who have perseveringly and industriously, since the beginning, started and developed this new country.

Should another spot on the river be chosen and recommended by him as a better site, or a better position, adapted for the future views of the government of British Columbia, it will certainly give a terrible blow to the new and not yet established town of Langley.

I consequently propose a general meeting of the lot holders in Langley; and a petition be made by a select committee addressed to Governor Douglas and Lieutenant Governor Moody; submitting to them the very legitimate fears and apprehensions of the people in that respect, begging of them such an answer that will confirm, or remove, the doubts, and give, if removed, a new impulse in building up the town of Langley. A. K.

Victoria, V. L., Jan. 48, 1859.

THE BRITISH COLONIST.

A. DE COSTEROS, Editor.

SATURDAY, JAN. 22, 1859.

THE great desideratum for Vancouver's Island and British Columbia is population. When we had it our rulers were so prejudiced, and so hostile to colonization, that every obstruction was placed in the way of immigrants, till the great majority were disgusted and left the country. Like the dog in the manger, the Governor and Company would neither settle the country nor allow others to do so. Allowing that 20,000 have left the country, of this number fully 15,000 would have remained had a proper disposition been shown towards colonization; and not more than 5,000 attracted hither by hopes of sudden wealth would have gone, and their places, ere this, would have been filled by four times their number. One of the best evidences which we can give to the British public and the world, why our population has left us, that Gov. Douglas told a British born subject, whose testimony is unimpeachable, that if an attempt was made to settle in British Columbia that BLOODSHED WOULD FOLLOW. Intimidated by those who usurped power, and the prospect of being butchered by the ruthless Indians friendly to corrupt and grasping white men, a few abortive attempts only were made toward permanent settlement. Notwithstanding arms and ammunition were dealt out to the blood-thirsty savage down to a late period of the year, and interdicts, obstructions, and petty restrictions, hurled continually against that daring, hardy, and enterprising body of pioneers—who

were unequalled to explore a new and inhospitable country, and whose virtues and deeds historians, poets, painters, and novelists, will yet take pleasure in describing—still they surmounted every obstacle, natural and political, and discovered and demonstrated the truth of the rumored riches of British Columbia; but only to be compelled, through fear of starvation, superinduced by a barbarous monopoly, to leave for a more christian country, with more humane rulers. Thus the H. B. Co.—backed up in their crusade against the best interests of the country, civilization, by the press of California who feared their hope of gain was lost—drove from our shores that population whose absence we now deplore.

British Columbia having been cried down in the marts of the world without any attempt being made by the authorities to prove that she was vilely slandered, it now remains for us to consider what measures should be taken to restate her in favor with the world, and induce population to return. The most effectual way to accomplish this purpose is to set before the world our capacity to sustain population. In this movement the authorities of British Columbia and Vancouver's Island should take the initiative, and co-operate with press and people for so laudable an object. As the gold fields of British Columbia are more attractive now to population and capital than the vast industrial resources of this colony, Victoria for the present must remain as an auxiliary, and dependant on the prosperity of our sister colony for business and population. Admitting then that our interests are identical, it is certainly the duty of our citizens to urge on the attention of government the advantages we would gain by inducing the government of British Columbia to issue a Commission to inquire into the extent of their gold fields, the localities, the nature of the diggings, the amount which has been and is now produced, the appliances for working, etc.—and extend their inquiries to the agricultural and other resources and advantages of the country. Let them collect all the information respecting the country so far as now known, and then publish their report, and circulate it in every place from which population can be derived. If this was done not more than a month would pass, before an authoritative vindication of the country would go abroad.—which, united with our steady produce of gold, would go far towards imparting renewed confidence in the country, and prove beyond successful controversy our capacity to sustain population.

Australia, New Zealand, Canada,—almost every new country settled by Europeans—are bidding in the marts of Europe for population, and offering payment to immigrants by giving greater political privileges, and the most liberal opportunities to provide homes on the public domain. Our rulers must do the same thing; and population of our own stock will come in to build up the country, instead of hordes of Asiatics. We know that British capitalists are merely waiting for some authentic information relative to British Columbia; and as soon as they receive it, they will forward

their capital, and be peculiarly interested in sending us population. In addition, the government should offer rewards varying from 20 to 4000 pounds for the discovery of new gold fields. This practice has worked well in Australia; and here it would cause an experimental exploration of the country by those now in it,—and be a very strong inducement for Californians to return. We need not be afraid to encounter a little expense when we know our resources are such as to enable us to afford it. A penny wise and pound foolish policy must be ignored; and expense incurred to draw population, who, in a few months after their arrival, will more than return the outlay. The government must not be inactive relative to population. If they are, the people will have to hold public meetings and urge them on to take measures to settle up the country, as we cannot afford to waste our time and hide our resources, when a few prompt measures would do more to immediately populate the country than years of inactivity and silence.

AMONG other reforms, if our Assembly would establish some rules for their government, they would certainly raise themselves in the opinion of the people. The business is generally conducted so irregularly that it is difficult to learn what is going on. The necessity of rules is made manifest by the ruling of Speaker Helmcken, at the last sitting of the House, when he informed Mr. Yates, contrary to all parliamentary usages, that a member of the minority only had a right to move a reconsideration.

Mr. Penberton will certainly be entitled to a medal if he makes any more such motions as cutting open the bridge, and allowing the public to infer that a derrick would be necessary to hoist horses and vehicles up and down; and for suggesting the imposition of ten cents a ton on all vessels arriving in the harbour. The Speaker and Mr. Yates very properly opposed the latter motion,—as nothing we could do at present would be more injurious. We must, however, give him some credit for denouncing that Registration of Voters Bill; but when he informed the House that no one, and Barristers in particular, should be allowed to examine the titles to real estate, he certainly afforded evidence as to the way the Land Office has been managed. The gentleman must learn the fact that any person is entitled to go into his office and examine the maps and titles at any time, for their information.

The effort made by certain hon. members to tear down the Victoria bridge, we believe impolitic at present. By tearing down the bridge and building new ones at Point Ellis, the colony will either be run in debt, or its revenue crippled. To do that would be folly, when the owners of property above the bridge can be accommodated by a good and sufficient draw in the bridge. That those above should have an equal right to derive benefit from their water front as those below, none will be so unjust as to deny; and the Legislature should consequently take measures in order that they may enjoy it. In the discussion three hon. members exhibited considerable feeling,

a great many unnecessary fears of an Indian war, and a great deal of false philanthropy. But the truth is, that Mr. Yates' motion to buy and sell the Indian reserve is the true course. By laying that property out in town lots a large revenue will fall into the treasury. And if that is done Victoria bridge will be necessary to travel. Take away the bridge and the reserve will be worth nothing, comparatively; and the country will lose a very large amount of money which it very much requires. The sum of the whole matter is: tear away the bridge and you cripple the colony, and make the reserve valueless; put a draw in the bridge and sell the reserve, and you get more harbour accommodation, and plenty of money in the Treasury to make improvements.

Mr. Skinner's notice of a bill "to quiet titles to land owned by aliens," is what has long been wanted, and the more speedily it becomes law the better. If he or some one else would introduce a liberal bill for the naturalization of aliens, it would be a step in the right direction.

THE ANTI-NUGENT CARD.—The address of the Hon. John Nugent—in which certain unpalatable truths were made public—has been again causing some excitement among the American residents during the week. To offset the card lately published in the S. F. Herald, another has been gotten up denouncing the address, and signed by nearly one hundred persons, chiefly Americans. An attempt was made first to get a card signed upholding Gov. Douglas, and denouncing the Hon. John Nugent; but this was too strong meat even for a few in the employ of His Excellency, and objectionable to those who wished to be neutral as to the local government: it was consequently laid aside. Some of those who signed the card did so from prejudices acquired during the extraordinary disturbances of '56 in San Francisco; others because they honestly believe that the address was unwise, and one which should never have been issued. For the latter we entertain the utmost respect; the former would act more wisely to leave the local prejudices of San Francisco where they originated. The address of the American Commissioner we have ever viewed as a document which should only have been seen in a modified form in the department at Washington, or in the hands of our authorities. Had a similar address been issued by the British Consul at San Francisco, though warranted through the corruption of officials, and the abuse of British subjects, he would probably have been insulted or shot before night, and the California press would have blazed with indignation. Englishmen may divide into parties and denounce the abuses of their own officials, and willingly encourage non official aliens in the country to take whatever side they please; but they would not generally like the official agent of a foreign power to publicly denounce their authorities on their own soil, contrary to diplomatic usages,—and particularly, as in this case, when no immediate good could result to the parties abused. If officially authorized to speak in behalf of his countrymen, we

believe Mr. Nugent should have communicated the abuses—which Americans in common with Englishmen have suffered—to the authorities, and if redress was not given, then quietly to his government. That he told some truths, in our opinion does not justify him as an official agent.

We have been asked whether we intended last week to endorse the S. F. Herald and the Hon. John Nugent. What we wished the public to understand was, that the flutter, thro' the publication of the card, suited us. Whilst we do not deny the right of any number of persons to sign what they please in secret, yet we dislike the principle. We want every body to come out openly with their cards, or memorials, and also express publicly their opinions. "Fighting the devil in the dark" does not suit us.

T. H. McCANN found a watch key in the Fort, which the owner can have by calling at the Merchant's Exchange, and proving property.

THE barque Frowning Beauty, Smith master, is now loading at Teekalet, W. T., for Sydney. N. S. W.

THE Bakers of Victoria have formed an Association to protect their trade. The price of bread being so low that they cannot make a living.

STEAMER Gov. Douglas will make her trial trip in a day or so.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST: Sir,—Your correspondent W. R. Kilburn (Brit. Col. No. 6) has told his own story as to his having been abused and insulted by the police without redress. The constables, however, in their depositions say, that he was seen three times between midnight and 4 o'clock on the morning of the 5th inst., and was stopped on suspicion the fourth time he was found wandering about the streets with a lantern. When asked who he was he replied, "Go to hell and see;" he subsequently referred to the captain of the Gov. Douglas, but when he got on board he called his shipmates, and they defied the constables to follow, threatening to kill them if they did. A sergeant of police was told by one of Kilburn's companions that it was whiskey he wanted and not coffee. Kilburn himself admitted having been absent from the boat looking for one of the crew as well as for coffee. Upon the whole it seems that the constables had cause for suspicion, and I could not consider he had faithfully performed his duty as watchman on board a ship, who was so often seen patrolling the town at a distance from his vessel. However, as he really was watchman of the Gov. Douglas, I dismissed the complaint, and I reprimanded the constables. One of the accusations brought against the government is that "the people have been beaten and imprisoned, robbed of the rights they should enjoy as Englishmen," etc. Now as the case of Kilburn is the first in which the name and particulars have been distinctly specified, I have thought it right to notice it, in order to show how easily you and the public may be misled, and how necessary it is to hear both sides of a question. (Why don't they give us the other side?—ED.) Kilburn asserts that I told him there was no redress; whereas I reprimanded the constables in his presence, and appointed the following morning to hear his charge against them, and give him an opportunity to produce evidence that they had been drinking that morning as he al-

leged. But he did not come himself nor produce any evidence next day. Having thus disproved the first charge of injustice in the administration of the laws, which has been made in a definite form, I must decline noticing any future publication of the kind. I am, Sir, your ob't serv't, AUGUSTUS PEMBERTON, Presiding Magistrate. Victoria, Jan. 20, 1859.

STEAMER Otter, Mouatt, arrived from Langley last evening, bringing 40 passengers, and considerable gold dust. Ned McGowan had assaulted a person by slapping his face and then spitting in it. A posse was sent down to Hill's Bar and arrested him. He is now lodged in jail at Fort Yale. Col. Moody and sappers were landed a week ago yesterday at Murderer's Bar, below Fort Hope. The steamer Enterprise had returned to Langley, and took aboard 400 marines, and left on Thursday for Fort Hope. The miners were in good spirits, but operations were irregular owing to frosts and thaws. H. M. S. Plumper was lying at Langley.

Several communications are crowded out. Will appear next week.

VICTORIA WHOLESALE PRICE CURRENT

Corrected Weekly.—Jan. 22.			
Apples, dried,	per lb.	13	a 15
Bacon, extra clear,	per lb.	17	a 18
Beans,	"	3	a 3 1-2
Butter,	"	47	a 50
Blankets, per pair,	"	4	a 11
Beef, mess,	per lb.	8	a 10
Bread, pilot,	"	10	a 12
Crochery, 50 per cent below cost.			
Office, Rio,	per lb.	16	a 17
Coffee, Java,	"	19	a
Cheese,	"	35	a 45
Candles,	"	30	a 32 1-2
Crackers, soda,	"	13	a 14
Flour, best brands,	"	11 50	a 13 50
Gunny Bags,	"	18	a 25
Hay,	"	3	a
Hams,	"	24	a 25
Lard, in 10 lb. cans,	"	18	a 19
Lumber, according to quality,	"	18	a 22
Mackerel, per hdt.	"	4	a 5
Nails,	per lb.	7	a
Oats,	"	3	a 3 1-2
Onions,	"	2	a 3
Pork, extra clear, 1-2 bbls.	"	20	a 22 1-2
Pork, mess, in "	"	17	a
Peas, split,	"	6	a 7
Potatoes,	"	1	a 2
Quick-steer,	"	70	a 90
Rice, Carolina,	"	9	a
Rice, China No. 1, fair,	"	6	a 7
Sugar, crushed,	"	17	a
" China No. 1, fair,	"	12	a
" New Orleans, fair,	"	13	a 13 1-2
" San Francisco refined,	"	13 1-2	a
Syrups, East Boston and S. F. refinery, 90	"	13	a 1
Sheetings and Drillings,	"	10	a 11
Shirts, A. A. and grey under, per doz.	"	10 50	a 11 50
Over shirts, per doz.	"	18	a 21
Teas, green, accord. to quality,	"	50	a 60
Teas, black, accord. to quality,	"	50	a 60
Yeast Powders, per doz.	"	2	a 3

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

SALE BY AUCTION THIS DAY.

SELM FRANKLIN AND CO., Auctioneers and Land Agents, Yates Street, will sell THIS DAY, Saturday, Jan. 22, at 11 o'clock, A. M., an assortment of GRO'ERIES, etc., consisting of Sandwich Island Sugar, Leaf Sugar, Molasses, Tea, Dried Apples, Bacon, Beans, Tobacco, Clothing, Blankets, etc. ALSO, ON MONDAY, the 27th inst., at 12 o'clock, A. M., the schooner Violet, now lying in Major Bay, Victoria harbour. She is 24 tons register and 30 tons burthen. The sale will be held at the Auction room, Yates street.

AT A MEETING OF THE PRACTICAL BAKERS held at the Royal Hotel, Victoria, Monday Evening, Jan. 17, they resolved to form themselves into a Society for the protection of their trade; together with regulating the wages of Journeymen so that they may have a just compensation for their labour; and doing away with Sunday work. They hope to merit the approbation of the public by their endeavours to do justice to the men who have served an apprenticeship to the trade. The following officers were elected for three months: SAMUEL NESBITT, President, SIMON MARSHFIELD, Treasurer, PATRICK KELLY, Secretary.

There is many Called but Nobody Chosen to attend the AUCTION SALE OF BOND AND CO. THIS DAY AT 10 O'CLOCK, A. M. Yates Street, WHERE you can buy the largest assortment of good Goods that has been offered in this market, consisting in part of 25,000 best brand HAVANA CIGARS, 10 cases PRESERVED FRUIT of the best quality, 10 cases of the celebrated FALKIRK ALB. Soda Crackers, Navy Bread, Sugar, and a general assortment of Groceries, etc.

T. PHELAN, CORNER of Yates and Government streets, offers for sale Barrels and half barrels Extra Clear Pork; 50 lb. sacks, Chile Beans; Quarter sacks Olympia Flour; Billings' sugar cured Hams; Half barrels New Orleans Sugar; Extra Clear Bacon; Rio Coffee; Barrels and half barrels Sand-vich Island Molasses and syrup; Half barrels Boston Crushed sugar; Black and Green Teas; and a general assortment of Groceries and Glass Ware. Jan 22

TEXAS STORE

COMMISSION HOUSE.

Having opened a store for the sale of Goods entirely on Commission, the undersigned respectfully solicits consignments in his line of business. He promises strict attention to the interests of his consignees. Remnants of stock received and disposed of to advantage. HENRY M. O'HEN, Yates street. Jan 22-61

NATHAN POINTER

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN MESSRS. DAVIS AND JONES' PATENT

SHIRTS

Of New York, AND L. ATKINSON'S IMPROVED SHOULDER SEAM PATTERN

SHIRTS,

Of Philadelphia,

ON YATES STREET,

OPPOSITE THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE,

VICTORIA, V. I.,

Is now prepared to offer the largest and best assortment of

GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING

GOODS,

Ever exhibited in Victoria, comprising all the latest styles of the celebrated Davis and Jones' superfine Patent

WHITE AND COLORED SHIRTS.

Is receiving by every steamer these beautiful Byron shirts, of all sizes, running from 13 to 20 inches around the neck.

Ladies and Gentlemen's Kid Gloves.

WE STUDY TO PLEASE.

Business hours from 6 A. M. till 10 1-2 P. M. j22

REMOVAL.

JONATHAN PEEL AND CO., Dealers in Groceries and Provisions, have removed to Wharf street, between Yates and Johnson's, next door to J. C. George and Co. j22-31

REMOVAL.

HUNTOON AND CO. have removed to Wharf street opposite Yates street. j1m

CURTIS AND CO.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

DRUGGISTS,

YATES STREET, VICTORIA, V. I.

Importers of

Finest quality Drugs, Chemicals, Toilet articles, Perfumery, Swedish Leeches etc.

Agents for all the popular Patent Medicines.

Also, dealers in Camphene, Alcohol, and Burning Fluid. d23

SOUTHWATE & MITCHELL,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

ALBERT WHARF,

Victoria, Vancouver Island,

And Battery st., San Francisco, California.

HUNTOON AND CO.

Offer for sale at the new town of LANGLEY, ex "Island Queen," from San Francisco direct:

- 530 bags Barley,
- 1200 qr. Sacks Flour,
- 700 Bags Beans,
- 20 Hhds Bacon,
- 50 Half Barrels extra Clear Pork.
- 20 Half Barrels Apples,
- 20 Half Barrels N. O. Sugar,
- 50 Kegs Syrup, 5 and 6 gallons.
- 100 Boxes Candles,
- 100 Boxes Soap,
- 100 Mats China Rice,
- 20 Firkins Choice Butter,
- 20 Cases Tobacco, assorted brands,
- 50 Chests Green and Black Teas,
- 20 Cases Mining and Rubber Boots,
- 10 Cases Clothing,
- 50 Kegs Nails,
- 10 Cases Handled Axes,
- 10 Dozen Shovels,
- Broad Axes, Cross Cut Saws, Files, Carpenter Tools,
- and a general assortment of Groceries, Hardware, and Clothing, at less than Victoria prices.

New Langley, B. C., Jan. 12, 1858. j16

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j15m6

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BOOTS, SHOES,

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Also—LADIES' SHOES, of all kinds.

Boots and Shoes made to order, and Repairing done at the shortest notice. d11

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Met Tuesday Jan. 18, 1859.

Present—Hon. Speaker Helmcken, Yates, Skinner, Kennedy, McKay, and Pemberton.

The Speaker read a message from the Executive stating that the bill to extend the Franchise to Victoria, would be brought forward at next meeting of Council, and the House informed of their action on it.

Mr. Skinner read a remonstrance signed by the inhabitants of Esquimalt against removal of Victoria bridge.

Mr. Yates moved a reconsideration of Mr. McKay's motion for removal of Victoria bridge.

Dr. Kennedy seconded.

The Speaker said a member of minority only had a right to move a reconsideration, and as Mr. Yates voted with the majority his motion could not be put.

Mr. Skinner opposed the motion.

Mr. Pemberton said the House had better go into Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. McKay gave notice that he would move an address to His Excellency to set apart 100 acres of land in Soke, Esquimalt, and Victoria, for School purposes.

The Speaker gave notice of an address to His Excellency to ask the Governor General of Canada for the Statutes of Canada and full files of Royal Gazette; also to ask the Home Government to give the colony all the modern Statutes of England; also a motion for Select Committee to consider improvements of Victoria Harbour, and informed the House that the bill for the registration of births and deaths was not dead.

Mr. Skinner gave notice of a bill "to quiet titles to real estate conveyed or owned by aliens."

Mr. McKay read, second time, Bill of Supply, relative to Victoria streets.

The Speaker informed the House that Mr. Waddington had given him 500 dollars on account of gully bridges.

Mr. Pemberton informed the House that plans and estimates were ready, and if the House would empower him, he would advertise for tenders for Store street bridge; Government street had been given out already.

The Speaker informed him that he now had authority, and called for first reading of bills.

Mr. Skinner read "An Act relating to Inns and Beer Houses, giving discretionary power to the Licensing Magistrate to grant six months' licenses."

Mr. Yates suggested that quarterly be substituted for six months.

Mr. McKay read "Bill for Registration of Voters," which occupied considerable time. The bill proposes that all voters shall be registered by the 20th March in each year; that they shall send in their claim to the Registrar; and that a Barrister shall hold a court in each district to examine the qualification of those registered, and note those whom he considers qualified and those to whom he objects.

Mr. Yates seconded it.

Mr. Pemberton thought it the most vague, incomprehensible, indefinite and ridiculous bill he ever heard; was opposed to it entirely. As to giving Barristers the right to examine the records of said office for information as to titles, was an inquisitorial power which should never be allowed, and that no one should be allowed to overhaul the records to pick flaws in titles.

Mr. Skinner was in favor of it.

Mr. Pemberton was opposed to the bill in all its stages; and moved in amendment that it be rejected.

Not seconded. The motion passed.

Mr. Pemberton spoke in favor of establishing a Decimal currency, and read bill for that purpose.

Mr. Skinner seconded it.

Mr. McKay gave notice of an amendment, that sovereigns be taken for five dollars.

The bill was read a first time and passed.

The Speaker said, it was necessary to set a time for second reading of bills. Registration bill set for this day fortnight; others to be read on the next meeting of the House.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole—Mr. Skinner in the chair—to consider the Ways and Means to defray the expense for removal of Victoria bridge and the erection of one at Point Ellis.

Mr. Pemberton read a Custom House report, stating that during the months of July and August the total tonnage of vessels arriving in port was 50,000 tons. He would move that 40 cents be collected on each ton, according to register, from all vessels arriving in Victoria or Esquimalt, and that the proceeds go into a sinking fund for the erection of bridges and harbour improvements.

Mr. Yates thought it unreasonable to take the two most important months of the past year as an index of the future; but the idea of taxing vessels would be so injurious, that it would discourage vessels in coming to the port,—and that that way of raising means should not be entertained for a moment.

The Speaker concurred with the hon. member, and thought that the best safeguard of our prosperity was to not tax vessels, and to keep the port free.

Mr. Yates thought the Indian reserve should be sold, and the monies derived from it should be appropriated for the purpose of bridges and harbour improvements.

The Speaker said, we have no power to levy duties on vessels; it was in contravention of the navigation laws.

Mr. Pemberton was not desirous of a vote; but would leave his motion to the House.

Mr. Yates saw no good means except the Indian reserve.

The Speaker thought we had no power to interfere with the reserve; and if sold, the proceeds should be used for the support of Indians, as they had always lived there.

Mr. Yates said the H. B. Co. had paid for the town site of Victoria by giving the Indians three blankets; that the Indians had only resided there since the settlement of the town; that the H. B. Co.'s farm was their old camp; that they were a nuisance, the Grand Jury having recommended their removal.

Mr. McKay was indignant at the idea of interfering with the Indians.

The Speaker was in favor of toll being taken, as a means of paying for bridges.

Mr. Pemberton was strenuously opposed to all tolls.

The Speaker then moved that the necessary funds be provided by issuing debentures payable out of the license fund next year.

Mr. McKay seconded the motion.

Mr. Pemberton questioned the legality of taking the license fund of next year.

Mr. Yates thought that the funds could be provided out of the sale of the Indian reserve.

The Speaker and Mr. McKay were entirely opposed to selling reserve.

Mr. Pemberton said the license fund would be about 5000 pounds, which he thought it unwise to touch. He was still in favor of his motion.

The Speaker would give 5000 pounds for license fund, and that was sufficient.

Mr. Yates said that from 50 to 100,000 pounds could be raised by selling the reserve. He would move in amendment "that the Indian reserve be purchased from the Indians, laid out in town lots, and sold to the highest bidder,

and the proceeds used for the purpose of removing obstructions and building bridges in Victoria harbour."

Dr. Kennedy seconded it.

Mr. Pemberton would object to the amendment in the most forcible manner. It was a wrong. If the reserve was sold the monies arising from such sale should be used to educate and improve the Indians. He wanted his motion carried; and as to the license fund there would not be enough if all the town got drunk the year round.

Mr. Yates was astonished at Mr. Pemberton, as he had last week agreed to the sale of the reserve. He must consider him a strange man.

The amendment passed.

Mr. McKay was indignant that the motion was carried. An Indian war would be brought on. He had seen Mr. Yates once before run into the Fort for protection.

Mr. Yates ridiculed the danger of a war; and that he had not gone to the Fort for protection during the Indian difficulties here, but was the only one who remained outside to protect his property.

The Committee then rose, and the House was called to order.

The Speaker said that the Committee had decided to find the means for harbour improvements out of the purchase and sale of Indian reserve.

Mr. Pemberton said that there was no use in opposing the report, as the House was of the same opinion as Committee. The report was adopted.

The Speaker read a bill entitled "An Act to authorize the removal of Victoria bridge, and to build one at Point Ellis," first time. As the name was blank, he would name it Pons Asnorum or Bridge of Asses.

Mr. Yates moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

Mr. Skinner seconded it.

The motion was not put; but allowed to lay over till next meeting of the House.

Mr. Yates gave notice of a motion "to inquire of the Executive for information relative to Indian reserve."

The House adjourned to meet Tuesday next.

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Signed TRACY KINGMAN,

Fort Yale.

G. A. REYNOLDS and Co.,

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dec25 34

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